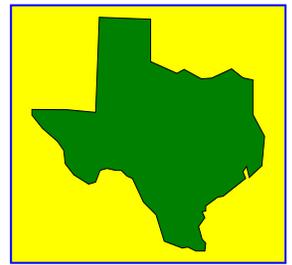


American Academy of Pediatrics



DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™

TEXAS CHAPTER FACTS.....

I already belong to the National AAP, why should I become a member of the Texas Chapter?

Physician leaders and staff of the Texas Chapter, the Texas Pediatric Society (TPS), are dedicated to advocating on behalf of children and pediatricians in our state. We have worked hard to build relationships, create networks, and establish ourselves as **THE** authority on pediatric issues in Texas. By being a member of the Texas Chapter, you have access to the vast resources, experiences, and knowledge we have accumulated. Through the collective efforts and expertise of our members, we are able to address the unique needs of Texas pediatricians. Your support and participation help us to become a stronger, more unified voice for children and the practice of pediatrics.

Advocacy

- Provide advocacy on a wide variety of local, state and national issues impacting children and the practice of medicine, including; immunizations, abuse and neglect, obesity, Medicaid/CHIP, disabilities, healthcare reform, scope of practice, payment, health information technology, graduate medical education, and other pediatric-centered priorities.
- Partner with state agencies to tackle regulatory, socioeconomic, and public health policy issues
- Work to improve issues that affect the quality of care and the profession of pediatrics
- Collaborate with other organizations to address issues impacting child health and medical practice
- Offer opportunities to increase your knowledge of and participation in legislative and advocacy activities

Committee Participation

- Plan educational curriculum and programs through one of our 18 committees
- Make your voice heard in the Society's itinerary, policies, and legislative agenda
- Recommend representatives for positions on state, TMA, and AAP boards, councils and committees

Educational Opportunities and Resources

- Attend CME-approved scientific programs, plenary sessions and subspecialty seminars
- Receive discounted conference and seminar fees
- Participate in online education and networking through webinars and email groups
- Receive a monthly e-newsletter regarding the latest health care trends and topics
- Peruse the members only channel of our website for valuable information, resources and toolkits

Leadership Opportunities

- Chair or co-chair one of our 18 regular or appointed committees
- Become an elected AAP and/or TMA Delegate to represent the profession of pediatrics
- Distinguish yourself as a pediatric champion through a variety of state and national awards and recognitions

Practice Management

- Access to hands-on assistance with coding questions and payment issues
- Representation at meetings with both public and private payers
- 2-day practice management conference in conjunction with the TPS Annual Meeting
- Newly created Pediatric Council to address pediatric issues related to access, quality and coverage

What Has Your Chapter Done Lately?

Below are some highlights of the work being done at the Texas Chapter.

- **HPV Immunization Outreach Project**- HPV vaccination coverage in the US has stagnated, well below other adolescent vaccines. Throughout 2014, we implemented several education initiatives to reach our membership throughout the state. Initiatives continue in 2015.
- **Immigrant Health: Border Issue-Accompanied & Unaccompanied Minors.** Texas was faced with an unprecedented surge of immigrant children and families crossing the U.S. borders in 2014. Populations included single adults, mothers with children and unaccompanied minors. Of the three populations, the Texas sectors reported a total of 58,796 unaccompanied children. The chapter worked with community stakeholders to assist them with the development of best practices for volunteers to utilize when engaging families, we coordinated outreach to Chapter membership for volunteer opportunities in communities providing health care services to unaccompanied and accompanied immigrant minors, and we submitted a resolution to the AAP brings into formation a full Committee on Disaster Preparedness with at least two sub-committees that have as their charge: (1) the preparation for and response to storms and natural disasters and (2) the preparation for and response to pandemic, epidemic events within this country.
- **Annual Leadership Planning Summit** – Hosted in April, this summit focused on several areas of importance to pediatricians, including establishing committee priority initiatives, an update on Medicaid, and health and care of refugee children.
- **84th Legislative Session** - TPS successfully advocated on behalf of Texas children and the pediatric profession during the 84th Legislative Session by:
 - ✦ Revitalizing the state’s Primary Care Preceptorship program to introduce medical students to the field of primary care early in their career
 - ✦ Increasing funding for new first year residency slots in the state to ensure we have enough positions for all graduating Texas medical students
 - ✦ Regulating e-cigarettes as tobacco products and prohibiting their sale to minors.
 - ✦ Protection of school fitness assessments to help communities combat obesity
 - ✦ Reinstating a child’s Medicaid benefit immediately upon release from a juvenile justice facility
- **Our RSV Taskforce** met by conference call twice per month during the 2014-15 RSV season to discuss statewide and regional epidemiological data collected by the CDC NREVSS, and make geographically appropriate recommendations on prophylaxis.
- **Liaison with State Agencies** - Provided feedback and information to state agencies on a variety of issues, including: coordination around unaccompanied minors crossing the border, implementation of Medicaid parity rates, proposed newborn screening rules regarding CCHD, implementation of the STAR Kids managed care program, and other various programs important to pediatricians.
- **Advocacy Training** - The Chapter held its third Resident/Fellow/Medical Student Advocacy Day in March of 2015 which attracted more than 70 medical students and residents representing all of the programs in Texas. Training included capitol visits to educate legislators and staff on issues important to pediatricians and the children of Texas.
- **Foundation** - We continue to support the TPS Foundation, the charitable arm of the Chapter, which raised over \$99,000 in 2014 to fund community based initiatives promoting child health and welfare.

Annual Chapter Dues:

Voting Fellows \$220 Candidate Fellows \$110 Associate Members \$220
Post Residency Training \$110 Medical Students \$15

Whom do I contact?

Texas Chapter Member Services Manager, Claire Foster at 512-370-1517 or claire.foster@txpeds.org

You can visit the Texas Chapter’s Web page at: www.txpeds.org